

## High-Efficiency Washing Machine Guide

After toilets, washing machines are the second greatest water user in the typical North American household, accounting for 22 percent of indoor water use. High-efficiency clothes washing machines use 18 to 25 gallons per load as opposed to the 40 or more of a typical model. The next time you replace your washing machine, make it an Energy Star qualified model.

### What are some Benefits of High-Efficiency Washing Machines?

#### Reducing Municipal Water Demand

Energy Star qualified washing machines save 7,700 to 9,400 gallons of water each year. Over the 11-year life of the washer, that's enough water to fill up more than three backyard swimming pools or provide a lifetime of drinking water for six people.

If just half of James City Service Authority's water customers that own washing machines switched to high-efficiency models, we would save over 67 million gallons of water each year.

Research data and manufacturer information show that a high-efficiency washing machine will:

- use 40 percent less water
- use 30-75 percent less detergent
- result in less shrinkage
- use half the energy
- reduce time in the dryer
- increase the life of your clothing

#### Features

Most water-efficient washing machines are front-loading, although there are a few redesigned top-loading models. These front-loading models are putting a new spin on laundry. They lack a central agitator and tumble clothes like a dryer. The cleaning occurs as clothes are tumbled through the pool of water at the bottom of the tub and then clothes are partially dried during a high-speed spin cycle, saving your water, energy, clothing, space, money, and environment. Read on to see how.

#### Performance

According to the Consumer Reports February 2005 issue, water-efficient washers generally outperform traditional washing machines. Many employ multiple rinse cycles, so less residual detergent stays on your clothing.

#### Saving Space

Front-loaders can be smaller with the same capacity as larger traditional models, primarily because they lack a central agitator. Many of these front-loaders are space-saver models, with the option of stacking them with a compatible dryer.

#### Saving Energy

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, front-loading washing machines can use half the energy of traditional models. High-efficient washing machines save energy mainly because they require less hot water, so less must be pumped into the water heater. These washing machines also have faster spin cycles

**In order to save additional water and energy**, wash your clothes in cold water with cold-water detergents unless you are treating oily stains. To save water and energy, it's best to wash only full loads, but if you must wash small loads, use the appropriate water level.

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than traditional models, extracting more water from clothes before they ever reach the dryer. The result is much less time running the dryer, which the U.S. Department of Energy reports is the second-biggest household energy hog in terms of energy use during operation.



### Saving Water

High-efficiency washing machines use only 18 to 25 gallons of water per load, as opposed to the 40 gallons or more that a traditional model consumes. The average family can easily save more than 6,000 gallons of water a year, or 66,000 gallons over the eleven year lifespan of a typical washing machine.

### Saving Your Clothes

Front-loading models may cause less wear and tear on your clothes since they are not pulled around an agitator. By washing your clothing more gently, a high-efficiency washing machine lengthens the life of often-washed items and reduces the amount of lint coming off in the dryer. Because they are so gentle, many models can safely clean silk, wool, and other hand-washables.

### Convenience

With the loss of the central agitator in washing machine design, your new high-efficiency machine can accommodate larger loads and larger single items than would fit in a typical top-loader.

### Considerations

#### Finding an Energy Star-Qualified High-Efficiency Washing Machine

JCSA does not rebate incorrectly-labeled appliances, so please bring a current list from [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov) to help you do your shopping. If you would like the list mailed to you, please contact JCSA at 757-259-5416 or [jcsa@jamescitycountyva.gov](mailto:jcsa@jamescitycountyva.gov).

### Cost

Prices range from about \$500 to \$1,600 before rebate, several hundred dollars more than a traditional washing machine with comparable features, but a typical household will save on water and electricity bills and detergent costs. The U.S. Department of Energy reports that inefficient clothes washers can cost three times as much to operate than energy-efficient ones.

### What to Do with Your Old Washing Machine

Several local charities accept operational used washing machines. Some provide free pick-up. Donation helps job training and self-sufficiency programs for people with disabilities and families in need. If your washing machine is broken, some appliance dealers and repair companies will still remove it for free, repair the item, and resell it.

**If you are a James City County resident** and your old washing machine is more than 60% metal, then it is eligible for free scrap metal recycling. James City County Solid Waste Management recycles scrap metal at the Convenience Centers at 1204 Jolly Pond Road and 185 Industrial Boulevard in the Hankins Industrial Park. If you are a resident and your washing machine is 60% metal or less, then you can use bulk disposal. Bulk disposal is available at the Convenience Center at 1204 Jolly Pond Road or may be available for pickup. A coupon charge is required. See [jamescitycountyva.gov/recycling](http://jamescitycountyva.gov/recycling) for details.

## Requirements

- Applicant and installation address must be a JCSA residential water customer. Account balance must be current.
- High-efficiency washing machine rebate request must be submitted and received within 180 days of purchase and installation.
- Washing machine model must be on current list of Energy Star qualified clothes washers, as found at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).
- High-efficiency washing machine must be purchased and installed prior to application for rebate.
- Applicant is solely responsible for purchase and installation arrangements and payments.
- Applicant agrees to allow JCSA inspector access to the premises in order to verify installation if selected for random inspection.
- Survey and form must be completed in their entirety and copy of receipt enclosed to be eligible for high-efficiency washing machine rebate.
- JCSA will refund up to \$75, not exceeding the cost of one Energy Star qualified high-efficiency washing machine.
- Rebated washing machine must be a replacement appliance at customer's service address. New construction does not qualify.
- Rent-to-owns do not qualify.
- Rebate checks will be processed within 4-8 weeks of receipt.

## Survey

- Type of structure: ☐ Single-family ☐ Multi-family ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the main reason for installing your Energy Star qualified high-efficiency washing machine? ☐ To save energy  
☐ To reduce municipal water demand ☐ For increased performance ☐ To save space ☐ To save water  
☐ To save your clothes from wear and tear ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you plan on installing any other water conservation or low impact development features, such as other WaterSense or Energy Star qualified products, irrigation control technologies, green roofs, rain gardens, porous pavement, or retention ponds?  
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, what features? \_\_\_\_\_
- Were you previously aware of the availability of high-efficiency washing machines? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- How much did this rebate influence your buying decision? ☐ Completely ☐ Somewhat ☐ Not at all
- Is this a replacement appliance? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Reason for this purchase? ☐ Old one not working ☐ Old one was sold ☐ Remodeling ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Approximate age (in years) of appliance you are replacing? \_\_\_\_\_
- What will happen to your old appliance? ☐ Trash ☐ Recycle ☐ Sell ☐ Give away/donate ☐ Trade in to dealer  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Approximate number of full-load equivalents per week? \_\_\_\_\_ Date of installation: \_\_\_\_\_
- Brand/Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Store/website of purchase: \_\_\_\_\_
- How did you hear about this rebate? \_\_\_\_\_

## Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Installation address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## Disclaimer

I certify that the listed Energy Star qualified high-efficiency washing machine has been purchased and installed for use at the above named address and meet the requirements of the James City Service Authority (JCSA) High-Efficiency Washing Machine Rebate Program. I understand that if I am required by my neighborhood to fulfill the actions rebated, then I am not eligible for the rebate. I also acknowledge that my home may be subject to an inspection by the JCSA or its agent to verify the information provided herein.

Please remit completed rebate form and copy of receipt to:  
 High-Efficiency Washing Machine Rebate Program  
 c/o JCSA  
 119 Tewning Road  
 Williamsburg, VA 23188-2639  
 Fax: 757-229-2463

The JCSA may deny any application that does not meet program requirements. The JCSA does not guarantee any of the benefits in the preceding guide; nor does it warranty freedom from defects, quality of workmanship, or suitability of the premises for the installation of Energy Star qualified high efficiency washing machine or associated products. The applicant will hold harmless James City County, JCSA, its agents, directors, officers, and employees against all loss, damage, expense and liability arising out of or in any way connected to the installation of the above Energy Star qualified high-efficiency washing machine or associated products. The JCSA reserves the right to change or terminate this program at any time.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. July 1, 2015

FOR JCSA USE ONLY

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Rebate Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason denied: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved ☐ Denied ☐